The Pyongyang Times

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Korea Will Support and Assist Laotian People to the End

D.P.R.K. FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement on January 25 in connection with the large-scale attack of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges on the liberated areas of Laos and their frenzied attempt to expand the aggressive war against the Laotian people.

Follows the full text of the statement:

The U.S. imperialists and their stooges are of late conducting large-scale attacks on the liberated areas of Laos and bent on expanding the aggressive war against the Laotian people.

They have long been manoeuvring to occupy the whole of Laos and convert her central and lower regions, particular, into a strategic bridgehead linking South Vietnam and Thailand, their strongholds of aggression.

They are now further intensifying bombing of the liberated areas of Laos and even perpetrating the barbarity of murdering Laotian people by spraying toxic chemicals.

In order to occupy the central and lower regions of Laos, the U.S. imperialists have already amassed scores of battalions of the Laotian rightist forces and large numbers of Thai puppet troops and are attacking the liberated areas ever more openly by instigating the traitorous clique of Laos.

Such moves of the U.S. imperialists against Laos are part of their criminal designs to expand their aggressive war to the whole Indo-China and recover from their setbacks in South Vietnam.

Behind the smokescreen of "peace," they are continuously bringing their aggressor troops into South Vietnam and scheming to further escalate the aggressive war against the Vietnamese people.

And, ganging up with the Thai and South Vietnamese puppet cliques, the U.S. imperialists are perpetrating aggression and open provocations against the Cambodian people.

All this proves that the "peace offensive" of the U.S. imperialists is altogether a deceptive ruse for escalating the war.

Their expansion of the war in Laos is a grave challenge to the Laotian people and the peoples of Indo-China and the whole Asia, and a wanton sabotage of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indo-China and the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people sternly condemn the criminal actions of U.S. imperialism and its stooges to expand the war against the Laotian people and other peoples in Indo-China and fully support the January 17, 1966, statement of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat.

The struggle of the Laotian people against the armed aggression of U.S. imperialism and its minions is a just, patriotic struggle for freedom and national independence, and a struggle for defending peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The DPRK Government and the Korean people will, as before, march shoulder to shoulder with the Laotian people in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists, the common enemy, and support and assist their just struggle to the end.

The Laotian question must be settled on the basis of the five-point solutions clarified in the Manifesto of the Laotian Political Consultative Conference and the four-point statement.

If the U.S. imperialists persist in their war machinations against the Laotian people in defiance of the strong protest of the Laotian people and the entire world peace-loving people, they will suffer a more serious, irreparable fiasco.

The Korean people are convinced that the heroic Laotian people, enjoying the active support of the world's people, will smash the schemes of U.S. imperialism and its stooges for aggression and war expansion, and win an ultimate victory in the struggle for genuine peace, neutrality, independence, democracy, unity and prosperity under the leadership of the Neo Lao Haksat.

Workers of the Sunchon Tractor Accessories Plant have remarkably improved the quality of their products
Photo by Choi Chun Hul

TELEGRAMS

✦ **Kim Il Sung**, Chairman of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and **Choi Yong Kun** President of the Presidium of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly, received a telegram from **Enver Hoxha**, First Secretary of the C.C. of the Albanian Workers' Party; **Haxhi Lleshi**, President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the Albanian People's Republic; and **Mehmet Shehu**, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Albanian People's Republic, in reply to their message of greetings sent on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the proclamation of the A.P.R.

✦ On the occasion of the sixteenth anniversary of the Republic of India, Premier **Kim Il Sung** of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent on January 25 a message of greetings to Mrs. **Indira Gandhi**, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.

✦ On the occasion of the sixteenth anniversary of the Republic of India, President **Choi Yong Kun** of the Presidium of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly sent on January 25 a message of greetings to **S. Radhakrishnan**, President of the Republic of India.

✦ Premier **Kim Il Sung** of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a telegram from **S Radhakrishnan**, President of the Republic of India in reply to his telegram of condolence over the death of the late Indian Prime Minister **Lal Bahadur Shastri**.

KOREA-GHANA CULTURAL AGREEMENT SIGNED

A cultural agreement was signed on January 20 in Accra between the Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Ghana.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Korean side by Ro Su Ok, Korean Ambassador to Ghana, and on behalf of the Ghanaian side by J. Benbengor-blay, Minister of Arts and Culture.

The agreement envisages the establishment of contacts between the two countries in the fields of science, education, culture and the press and exchange of delegations.

Li Jong Sun of the Songyo Ceramics Works endeavours hard to manufacture good-quality ceramic ware. The ware bearing the touch of her brush is favorably received both at home and abroad
Photo by Hwang Duk Bum

70,000 S. Korean Workers Up For Better Living Conditions

More than 70,000 workers in the fields of communications, railway transport and monopoly enterprises under the puppet government launched into struggle, demanding better living conditions, according to news reports from Seoul.

The representatives of these workers had a meeting on January 28 and decided to demand a 30 per cent increase of their wages, and notified the puppet government of the decision.

They also decided to launch a labour dispute in case the government gave no satisfactory answer to their demands, it is reported.

Workers in 13 Govt-run Enterprises Demand Wage Rise

The workers of 13 government-run enterprises including the Hanguk Electrical Company and the Daehan Coal Company rose up demanding higher wages.

The representatives of 13 enterprises held a meeting on January 29 and decided to present a three-point demand to the puppet government. This demand includes a 40 per cent wage increase, payment of bonus on the quarterly basis, discontinuance of acts of arrogance and supervision by the ministry of commerce and industry toward the enterprises. They also decided to launch a dispute unless their demands are met.

A GOOD START

— JANUARY PLANS OVERFULFILLED —

The working people of North Korea who increased the total value of industrial output by 14 per cent last year compared with the previous year are now successfully carrying out their plan for this year.

As of January 27, the miners of the Mannyon Mine overfulfilled their plan for January by 10 per cent, 19 per cent higher than in the previous year. This success was achieved by doubling the tunnelling speed per face and increasing the rate of ore extraction through the enhancement of the level of mechanization and the extensive introduction of advanced techniques.

On the same day, the miners of the Ryongyang Mine also overfulfilled by 10 per cent their monthly assignments in producing magnesite and other mineral ores and in tunnelling.

The Chongjin Steel Works which turns out granulated iron and the Chonnaeri Cement Factory have also fulfilled their January plan on all indices ahead of schedule.

News of good results came from lumbering stations, too.

The Pungso Lumbering Station topped its monthly production target at 109 per cent as of January 19. Nine other lumbering stations are also reported to have achieved their monthly quotas before January 26.

Fishery offices and fishermen's co-operatives in Kangwon Province also overfulfilled their monthly production plans by 10.2 per cent as of January 26.

MAGNESITE MINERS

Workers of the Ryongyang Mine who exceeded their planned production targets for January, are making continued innovations. Photo: A stope of the Youth Pit of the Ryongyang Mine

CLOCK PRODUCERS' CO-OPERATIVE

Members of the Kaesong clock producers' co-operative with the title of Chollima (winged horse), working hard to turn out better clocks

TWO KOREANS LEAVE FOR JAPAN

Messrs. Li In Su and Li Gwang Hun, who were the first to visit their homeland from Japan, left the port of Chongjin aboard the "Songdo" on January 24.

A grand farewell meeting was held at the pier.

Chairman Li Un Sok of the Chongjin City People's Committee and Li Gwang Hun made speeches at the meeting.

Meanwhile, on their departure for Japan, Li In Su and Li Gwang Hun had an interview with reporters at home. At the press conference, they expressed the impressions they gained during their visit to the homeland.

Referring to the impressions of his native town and other areas where he had visited, Mr. Li In Su said: "Modern factories have risen up everywhere in my country which could not turn out even a needle under the Japanese imperialist rule, and lean land has been converted into fertile soil. All this has heightened my pride and honour of being a citizen of the prospering motherland where a new system has been established.

"My native place in a remote area was dotted with shanties when I left there 47 years ago. But now all the thatched huts have given way to tile-roofed houses. Tractors have taken the place of draught animals and people are all leading a happy, bountiful life."

Mr. Li Gwang Hun said that the greater he was moved by the changes in the motherland, the more he thought of the tragic realities of South Korea under the heels of U.S. imperialism. The compatriots in South Korea must drive out the U.S. imperialists and unify the country in order to lead a happy life like the people in the North, he stressed.

Assuring the audience that they would convey what they had seen in the flourishing homeland to the 600,000 Korean nationals in Japan, they wished their home country continued prosperity.

MORE TRANSFORMERS

The workers and technicians of the transformer workshop at the Daean Electrical Machine Factory with the title of Chollima (winged horse) are topping their daily quotas at 120 per cent

Photo by Pak Chan Mo

Sato Has No Right to Meddle In Nationality Problem

CHAIRMAN KIM WAL RYONG OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS OF KOREA in a statement on January 25 demanded the Japanese government authorities immediately stop forcing the Korean residents in Japan to make "applications for permanent residence."

He noted: "The real purpose of 'permanent residence' is to make a political screening of the 600,000 Korean residents in Japan, further intensify national discrimination and persecution against them and cause discord and split among them, by imposing 'South Korean nationality'."

By so doing the Japanese ruling circles, he added, have the vicious aim of depriving the Korean citizens in Japan of all national rights and keeping them under dual oppression and dominations by the Japanese militarists and the Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea.

He expressed national sympathy and firm solidarity with the compatriots in Japan who were fighting resolutely against the unreasonable behaviour of the Japanese government. If the Japanese authorities persist in forcing the Korean residents in Japan to file "applications for permanent residence," they will be held entirely responsible for all the grave consequences arising therefrom, Kim Wal Ryong warned.

CHAIRMAN HWANG WON BO OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE UNION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKING PEOPLE in his statement made on January 29 said:

"It is not only a criminal act of infringing upon the most elementary rights and the national rights of the Koreans in Japan, but also a hostile act against the entire Korean people that the Japanese government authorities continue forcing our compatriots in Japan to file 'applications for permanent residence'."

The Japanese government has only to fulfil the legal and moral obligations to guarantee all human rights and national rights including the right of residence to the Korean residents in Japan, in view of the principle of international law or taking into consideration the crimes it had previously committed against the Koreans, he pointed out. The Japanese authorities, he asserted, have neither rights nor grounds whatsoever to meddle in the nationality problem of the Koreans in Japan, raising the matter of "permanent residence." For they are overseas citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, whose status is firmly guaranteed by the nationality law of the Republic.

QUESTION OF "PERMANENT RESIDENCE"

The Japanese Government started on January 17 the "work of accepting from the Korean nationals in Japan applications for permanent residence" in accordance with the "agreement on the legal status of the Korean nationals in Japan."

The "agreement on the legal status of the Korean nationals in Japan" is an annex to the "South Korea-Japan Treaty" concluded between the Japanese militarists and Pak Jung Hi and his clique on the initiative, and at the active instigation of U.S. imperialism.

It is already universally known that the "South Korea-Japan Treaty" has prepared the groundwork for the tie-up between Japan and the puppet clique in South Korea, with the reinvasion of South Korea by the Japanese militarists as a premise, in order to meet the immediate demand of the United States for the execution of its policy of aggression in Asia. The Japanese militarists and Pak Jung Hi and his clique had had bargaining and shady transactions between them surrounding a number of issues before they formed a line-up. In their dealings, they even took up the issue affecting the destiny of 600,000 Korean residents in Japan.

The results of their dealings were put into statutory form, and this is what they call "agreement on the legal status of the Korean nationals in Japan." The gist of the "agreement" boils down to the following two main points: first, that the "agreement" affirms the discrimination and persecution and maltreatment the Japanese militarists have hitherto practised against the Korean residents in Japan in violation of the provisions of international law and the humanitarian principles and enables them to continue with such practices; second, that the Japanese militarists, in return for this, place the 600,000 Korean residents in Japan at the disposal of the puppet regime in South Korea, in disregard of their wish.

As mentioned above, there are 600,000 Korean nationals residing in Japan. They are the people who were taken to Japan for military and labour services by the Japanese imperialists, or who went to Japan in quest of livelihood and survived unspeakable sufferings and ordeals they underwent as colonial slaves when their country was under Japanese colonial rule, or the sons and daughters of these people.

The conditions of the Korean nationals in Japan should, therefore, have been improved immediately after the defeat of Japanese imperialism in World War II, and they should have been accorded without delay the status and all the rights due to foreign residents according to international law and the humanitarian principles.

In view of both the legal and moral obligations to atone for the crimes committed against the Korean residents by the Japanese militarists, the Japanese authorities should have taken particular steps to ensure the status due to the Korean residents in Japan.

There is no justification, therefore, for talking up and discussing the questions of their rights to residence, education and employment.

Nevertheless, far from according the Korean nationals the treatment and rights which they should enjoy as foreign residents, the Japanese militarists condemned them to discrimination and persecution and did not hesitate to use them as a bait in their political dealings with Pak Jung Hi and his clique under the manipulation of the Americans.

The so-called "application for permanent residence" is a means designed to execute the results of their dealings.

As is generally known, the absolute majority of the 600,000 Korean residents in Japan have refused the "South Korean nationality," they are overseas citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. But the Japanese authorities are coercing the Koreans in Japan to submit the "application for permanent residence," with the "certificate of the South Korean nationality."

This shows that the aim behind the granting of "permanent residence" is to impose the "South Korean nationality" upon our compatriots in Japan, screen them politically and create the preconditions for cruel suppression of those who refuse the "South Korean nationality."

This action of the Japanese authorities is an act of infringing upon the basic human rights and national rights of the Korean residents in Japan, a criminal act of violating the accepted principles of international law and international practice, and an act hostile to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It is one of the fundamental human rights of the individual person to choose the nationality of his own free will and not under anybody's instructions or coercion.

This is why the absolute majority of the Korean nationals in Japan, despite the repeated plots of the American and Japanese reactionaries and their puppets, categorically reject the "application for permanent residence" and those compatriots who had the "South Korean nationality" imposed upon them are fighting persistently to change the "South Korean nationality" to that of the D.P.R.K.

Their struggle commands the support of public opinion in Japan and abroad for its justness.

Li Sam Chae

Warmest Friendly Sentiments

Leading a delegation of the Organization of African Democratic Revolutionary Youth of Guinea, Kamara Ibrahima, Member of the National Committee of this organization paid a visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea late in January. He wrote impressions of Korea for our Pyongyang Times.

During its stay in Korea the Guinean Youth Delegation made an inspection of factories, primary and middle schools and the University, the Children's and Students' Palace and the Museum of Korean Revolution.

Wherever we went we felt the warmest friendly sentiments the young people in Korea cherish towards the youth of Guinea.

While in the midst of the Korean people who are fighting to drive out the aggressors and unify their country, we saw clearly how passionately the young people of Korea, young workers, peasants, intellectuals and students in particular, are sharing in scientific pursuits, production and construction.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to the entire youth and people of Korea on the brilliant achievements they have made in socialist construction in their country under the wise leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung, and pay our highest tribute to their successes.

Particularly, we heartily make a high appraisal of the invaluable achievements the Korean people have scored in their endeavour to build an independent national economy on the principle of self-reliance.

Our delegation avails itself of its current visit to Korea to express once again its full support to the stand of the Korean people and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the stand that the question of Korea's unification should be settled by the Korean people themselves free from any outside interference, on a democratic principle and by a peaceful means.

In conclusion we express our sincere wish that the young people of Korea will register greater successes by continuing their hard work on all fronts of socialist construction.

A Lady Painter

IMAGES of three sewing corps members of an anti-Japanese guerrilla unit in the 1930's who are immersed in making military uniforms, half concealed in a reed field—this is one of the prized works on display in the Korean Fine Arts Museum.

This Korean traditional painting depicting the lofty spiritual world of the women revolutionary fighters was the winner of first prize at the 1961 National Fine Arts Exhibition.

At the time, the artist was not yet an established painter but a newcomer who had just graduated the Pyongyang Fine Arts College and before that an army nurse.

It was during the arduous Patriotic War of Liberation against the U.S. aggressors that she, Ju Gwi Hwa, first made up her mind to draw women revolutionaries of the days of the anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare.

After she joined the army, she never parted with her sketch book all the way down to the Rakdong River which was then the first line, going through one fierce battle after another.

ONE day the divisional commander, a participant in the anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare, visited her sub-unit and encouraged the nurses who were treating and sending to the rear wounded soldiers with deep care. Telling them about the women revolutionaries who fought with weapons in hand against Japanese imperialism for 15 years, he said: "Today you are our women revolutionaries!"

Feeling anew the pride of standing in the revolutionary ranks, Ju Gwi Hwa conceived in the depth of her heart a plan to paint anti-Japanese guerrillas, the source from which the present generation derive a great aspiration.

In August 1951, she got seriously wounded in the eyes on a battle front in central Korea. Pressing her sketch book to her breast, she sighed for grief: "Is this the end of my hope?" Her heart was boiling with hatred for the U.S. imperialists.

THE day when she was discharged from the army with one eye sightless, she held the brush and made up her mind to reflect on her canvas the exemplary fighters and the optimism prevailing in our time.

She entered the fine art college. After her graduation, she began to carry out her long cherished plan to paint a picture on the revolutionary theme.

She spent almost all her time in the Museum of Korean Revolution during the day and read again and again the "Reminiscences of Participants in the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Warfare" at night to have a full knowledge of the sewing corps of the guerrilla units.

She often visited women guerrillas of the 1930's. She also visited the places where the events associated with her themes had taken place. She still has over twenty sketches made on those occasions.

The Korean painting "Members of the Sewing Corps" is the fruit of such assiduous efforts. As the painter herself said, this picture is done in the spirit of fighting the U.S. imperialists.

Artist Ju Gwi Hwa is a mother of four children. She is now at the easel in the studio of the Korean Painters' Union wielding her brush to represent a phase of the Patriotic War of Liberation.

Li Ja Gyong

Korean traditional painting "Members of the Sewing Corps" by Ju Gwi Hwa

NATION'S BELIEF

By RI JI RIN, Doctor of History

Since the beginning of the year, South Korean papers have voiced in more definite terms the urgency of the country's unification and the belief that unification will certainly be realized.

South Korean paper Kyonghyang Shinmun lamented: "The country still remains divided, though 20 years have passed since our homogeneous nation was split into the North and the South." Then it wrote: "To unify the country by eliminating the barrier that keeps one and the same nation and one and the same country partitioned is what we have been desirous of for 20 years and, at the same time, this is a duty for us to discharge for our posterity.

Another paper Chosun Ilbo stressed: "The country's unification is more important than any other problems." Still another paper Dong-a Ilbo said: "The nation with a history of more than 1,000 years of unity will, no doubt, be unified some day."

This is an unshakable belief of every Korean except the traitorous clique.

On what does this belief in unification of the Korean people rest?

It is inseparable from the fact that the Korean people is a homogenous nation with a long history and brilliant cultural traditions, a nation that has stood together to defeat foreign aggressors.

The ancient states built by the Korean tribes with their own culture—ancient Chosun (5-4th century B.C.), Buyo (3rd century B.C.) and Jinguk (3-2nd century B.C.)—existed independently of each other, yet their languages, customs, systems and culture had in general something basically in common with each other.

The peoples of these ancient states effected economic and cultural interchanges, visited each other and practised emigration among them.

During the period of the three kingdoms of Koguryo, Baekje and Silla which, having been set up around the beginning of the Christian era, succeeded to the ancient states, the community of culture among them became closer.

The fact that there existed three different states and three different kingdoms in ancient times and at the beginning of the feudal age was not due to the different racial origin of their peoples; it was an inevitable historical phenomenon corresponding to the social and economic developments in those days.

The peoples of the three kingdoms were unanimous in aspiring after the unification and wished to see their countries unite as one so as to counter foreign aggression.

Proof of this is that after the unification of the three kingdoms by Silla in the latter part of the 7th century, the people of the ruined Koguryo and Baekje put up a common front with the people of Silla and thus repulsed the Tang aggressors. Since the unification by Silla the Korean people have lived for over one thousand years in a unified land lying south of the Amrok (Yalu) River which divides Korea from China.

The political, economic and military power and culture of the country achieved a speedy development. Even under the feudal system, the Korean people created a brilliant culture which contributed to enriching the treasure house of world culture. The national traditions were enriched too. Each time foreign aggressors invaded their country, the Korean people throughout the land rose up to fight in defence of the nation's sovereignty. Early in the 20th century, owing to the corruption of the feudal government and the traitorous acts of the ruling circles, the country failed to beat back the aggression by Japanese imperialism that was backed by U.S. imperialism, and in consequence it was made a colony of Japan.

Our people, however, who took over the patriotic traditions formed in the course of a long history did not give in; they waged a vigorous national-liberation struggle against Japanese imperialism.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle of the Korean Communists in the 1930's paved the way for the restoration of the fatherland and the patriotic Korean people, united firmly under their leadership, fought the Japanese imperialists and won a final victory by driving them out of Korea.

On August 15, 1945, Korea was liberated from the 36-year-long colonial rule of Japanese imperialism and our people set out to create a new life.

The Korean people, a single nation which has taken over and carried forward one and the same language, customs and culture over a period of thousands of years, has for the past 20 years been suffering the tragedy of national division resulting from the U.S. occupation of South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists who have been occupying South Korea since 1945 have rigged up the puppet regime in South Korea in an attempt to perpetuate the division of Korea, and have converted South Korea into a complete colony of theirs and their military base directed against the Asian continent. Today they are turning South Korea into a dependency of the United States and Japan by bringing in the Japanese militarists.

Pak Jung Hi and his clique, while submitting to the outside forces, are bent on committing traitorous acts. They went to the length of making a traitorous statement that "the question of the country's reunification must be dealt with from generation to generation just as the Hundred Years' War was fought."

This, in fact, means that they are opposed to unification.

With no scheme, however, can the U.S. imperialists and their stooges hamper Korea's unification for a long time. By its united struggle, the Korean people will drive out the U.S. imperialists who brought about Korea's division and have been obstructing her unification, overthrow their lackeys and achieve the unification of the country without fail.

This is the law-governed process of historical development, and no one can check this process.

Farmers Enjoy Paid Holidays

Enjoying a rest on a balcony (at the Ju'ul Holiday Home)
Photo by Chae Jae Gyong

Co-Operation farm members of our country are now enjoying holidays during the slack farming season in winter.

All co-op farmers are entitled to enjoy paid leave like the factory and office workers.

Some 1,700 co-op farmers are now enjoying their holidays at state expense at the Ju'ul, Wusanjang, Sechon, Hongwon, Ryongmu and other holiday homes located at scenic spots and places of historical interest.

According to data of the Ministry of Labour, from January to March this year, seven times as many co-op farmers as in 1961 will spend their holidays at holiday homes.

At the Wusanjang Holiday Home

Vacationers playing chess

Rural youth singing a song
Photos by Ryang Do Hum

They're Sure to Fulfil Their Plans

THE co-op farmers in North Korea who gathered a good harvest last year are now busy making preparations for this year's farming, receiving more state and social assistance than before. This year they have set themselves the goal of increasing the per-*jongbo* output of grain by 600 kilogrammes.

Some time ago, I visited the Kangchol (Steel) Co-operative Farm located in the western region of North Korea.

Last year, the grain output of this co-op farm was 1.9 times over 1959 and the cash income was double that in 1959.

Accordingly, the farmers' share in grain and cash increased: the average share of the farmers showed a 50-per-cent increase in grain and an 80-per-cent rise in cash as compared with the previous year. For example, the members of the fifth work-team embracing more than 70 households received enough grain for two years and to spare.

The farm's goal for this year is to boost the per-*jongbo* yield of paddy-field rice by 600 kg., dry-field crops by 500 kg., fruit by 30 per cent, cotton by 20 per cent, vegetables by 30 per cent and tobacco by 40 per cent, compared with last year.

Scientific System of Farming

A constantly growing agricultural output of this co-op farm in recent years was not due to the increase in the area of the arable land. The basic factor was that the co-op farm developed agriculture in a diversified way, in conformity with the obtaining natural and geographical conditions, while laying stress on grain production, and did farming in a scientific why. This co-op farm now grows rice, millet, maize and wheat as well as industrial crops such as cotton, tobacco and oil-bearing crops, and vegetables, fruits and cocoon. Under these conditions, planned farming on the principle of planting the right crop on the right soil constitutes one of the preconditions for high yields.

In this co-op farm, every year, when farming is over, technical workers make soil analysis of the paddy and dry fields. This is followed by land amelioration and the re-examination of the manuring system. On this basis preparations for the next year's farming are made.

At present, the work for reducing acidity of 170 *jongbo* of dry fields is going on and preparations are being made for supplying 1.5 times as much fertilizer as in the previous year to all the paddy and dry fields. This is an important measure for reaping another good harvest this year.

At the same time, the selection of good seeds is also being reconsidered so as to adapt it to the improved fertility of land as a result of land amelioration and to the other improved conditions of farming.

Measures have been taken for planting late ripening crops which ensure high yields on some paddy fields, instead of early ripening crops. And the breeding of cereals and their replacement with better ones are being undertaken extensively. Along with this, it is planned this year to increase the two-crop area to 80 per cent, or 30 per cent higher than last year.

Fulfilment of this task, needless to say, demands more farming funds, labour, technical means and materials than last year. However, all this does not cause much difficulty to the farm, because it has firm economic foundations, and the state and social assistance to it has been increased, and more of the machines and equipment needed for mechanization are being supplied to it.

Farmers Are Masters

All the co-op farmers believe that they will attain their goal without fail. Co-op farm member Pak Yun Won said to me: "In old society, farming largely depended on weather conditions, but now it is the co-op farmers that decide everything. For we are provided with every condition for farming—farm machines, irrigation facilities and others. The point is how we go about our work."

This was the very expression I heard from the chairman and all other members of the co-op farm alike.

Every co-op farmer is well acquainted with the actual situation in his farm and its target for increased production, and his own task for its attainment.

At the meetings of sub-teams and teams held on several occasions for making this year's production plans, the co-op members presented their opinions and then approved the plans after extensive discussions.

That is why the co-op members make no doubt that they are sure to fulfil their plans.

Thanks to the solid material and technical foundations, the powerful state and social assistance and the labour enthusiasm of the co-op farmers, the plan of this co-op farm will certainly be fulfilled and this year will be another year of abundance for it.

Yun Won Gil

"Good morning," children salute the nurse when they arrive (at the kindergarten of the 14th work-team)

KINDERGARTEN IN A VILLAGE

Sambong-ri, Pyongwon County of South Pyongan Province, is an ordinary farm village in Korea. The Sambong Co-operative Farm in this village has 15 work-teams, and each of them has a kindergarten. All of the pre-school-age children in the village—over 500 all told—attend kindergartens.

The slogan: "The best things for the children," which you will find put up everywhere you go, is put into practice.

In the pre-liberation days, it was out of the question for the people in this village to send their children to kindergarten. There was not even a primary school in the village.

In this village today, the best buildings in the village are allotted to the kindergartens and the best fruits and nutritious food are supplied to the kindergarteners. The co-operative farm management board makes a big outlay for the kindergartens every year, paying constant attention to their management.

Teachers' training institutes have pre-school-age departments in which students receive everyday guidance for the improvement in the teaching methods and content of education. The Government sends the graduates of these departments to the kindergartens.

The day was gone long ago when the parents alone shouldered responsibility for the education of the children.

The kindergarten, while being an establishment for the education of the children, is a means through which the state and society render assistance to the working women and show concern for them.

The kindergartens charge no fee at all to the parents of the children.

"The kindergarten takes such a good care of our children that during the working hours we can work with complete peace of mind," say the women co-operative farm members.

They are fond of making handiworks

Nurses often hold discussions to improve the management of the kindergarten

Article and Photos by Pak Sung Man

SPAS IN N. KOREA

Some 20 spas and mineral springs have been newly developed in Pyonggang County 30-km. west of Pyongyang and Baechon County adjoining the Military Demarcation Line.

The seven spas discovered in Pyonggang County are efficacious in treating high blood-pressure, neuralgia and women's diseases. Four hot springs at 44 degrees centigrade have been found in the neighbouring Onchon County, South Pyongan Province. Meanwhile, two mineral springs have been spotted in Daesong District, Pyongyang.

There are now more than 120 spas and mineral springs in our country. They are noted for their good medicinal properties. Mineral hot springs containing rare silicon are clustered in North Hamgyong Province where volcanic chains pass through. These spas are effective especially for the treatment of peripheral nerve diseases, non-tubercular spinal troubles and arthritis.

No less famous are the Soktang sulfuric hot spring in Yangdok County, South Pyongan Province, at 80 degrees centigrade and the outer Kumgang hot spring in Kangwon Province containing radioactive gas.

The spas and mineral springs are all open to the working people. Holiday homes and sanatoria furnished with specialized medical equipment serve the working people. Medical workers have already accumulated rich experiences in research and clinical practice.

Ju'ul hot spring in North Hamgyong Province

HUNTING in WINTER

Large numbers of game—bear, wild boar, roe deer, badger, hare, duck, wild goose and pheasant—inhabit Korea's mountains and fields.

In winter, the snow blanketing mountains are dotted with the footmarks of beasts and the footprints of hunters.

Many of the co-operative farm members, with hunting guns on their shoulders, climb mountains for a sport.

Photo: These two hunters from Simsong-ri village, Daehung County of South Hamgyong Province—Choi Hyo Sul (left) and Yun Hwa Sun (right)—have bagged three boars at the sunset. The brave and persevering dogs, too, seem to be very much pleased.

These dogs' home is the Pungsan district, South Hamgyong Province, lying south of the Kaema Plateau running southward from the foot of Mt. Baekdu. This is why they are usually called Pungsan dogs. The Pungsan dog has been known as good hunting dog from olden times.

Photo by Jang Sok Yong

Washington Orders: Two More Divisions To S. Vietnam

Hapdong Tongshin reported from Seoul that on January 29 U.S. Ambassador to Seoul Brown and foreign minister of the puppet government Li Dong Won had an one-hour talk in the morning, where they reached a certain "agreement" with regard to the "dispatch of more South Korean troops to Vietnam."

Another dispatch that day of the news agency **Dongyang Tongshin** in South Korea said that Beach, U.S. Commander in South Korea, "conferred with the brass hats including the minister of national defence of the puppet government, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff and army chief of staff about a certain military matter for hours," and added that "it was learned from the military sources that at the conference of South Korean and U.S. military leaders a concrete discussion had been conducted on the question of modernizing the equipment of the South Korean army, in connection with the dispatch of more reinforcements to Vietnam."

On January 28, puppet National Assembly invited minister of national defence Kim Song Un and inquired of him about the dispatch of more South Korean troops to Vietnam.

Defence Minister's Testimony

According to the news agency **Donghwa Tongshin**, the defence minister in his testimony at the National Assembly "elucidated the necessity of dispatching reinforcements" to Vietnam, stating that "I believe more of us should go and help the Vietnamese whose morale is very low."

He also revealed that measures were being taken to reinforce and modernize the armaments of South Korea's puppet army, in connection with the dispatch of more troops to Vietnam, and declared that the military equipment worth 6.1 million dollars out of the 9 million dollars required for the conversion of three reserve divisions into combat ones was on the way to South Korea.

Earlier, on January 26, a well-informed high official of the puppet government, "admitting that they had been requested officially by the United States to send more South Korean troops," revealed that "negotiations were under way to settle matters related to the dispatch of reinforcements," news reports from South Korea said.

Washington's Instruction

The same news also noted that U.S. Ambassador to Seoul Brown conveyed the "instructions of the U.S. government as regards the dispatch of more South Korean troops" to the foreign minister of the puppet regime at his personal interview with the latter on January 24 and 25. The South Korean press reports that 20,000 service men of South Korea, or two divisions, will be sent to South Vietnam.

Recently Brown and Beach have been visiting the bosses of the puppet regime daily, sometimes twice or thrice a day, to urge the latter to carry the dispatch of reinforcements into practice as soon as possible.

U.S. General's Interview

Meanwhile, "commander of the U.N. forces" General Beach, at an interview with South Korean and foreign newsmen on January 26, said that U.S. aid would be completed at an early date to make up for the weakening of the defence capacity of South Korea resulting from the dispatch of massive reinforcements to South Vietnam, and even disclosed the detailed programme of implementation of the above-measures.

According to him, 155 mm. howitzers and those of various other types, as well as new-type heavy tanks will soon arrive from the United States to help reinforce the puppet ground force; to help strengthen the puppet air force, scout planes will be brought in, besides FA-5 jet fighters already shipped into South Korea; and to enhance the fighting capacity of the puppet navy, the project for enlarging the Chinhae naval base will be started soon.

Heavy U.S. tanks have already begun to arrive in South Korea.

All these facts go to show that behind the smokescreen of "peace offensive" the American imperialists are not only making frantic efforts to carry out their plan for the escalation of the aggressive war in Vietnam; they are at the same time stepping up their preparation for aggressive war in South Korea.

5,500 U.S.-hired Workers To Call a Strike

Over 5,500 workers of the "Korean Service Corps" under the U.S. aggressor army decided to call a strike for an indefinite period from February 3, according to **Radio Dong-a** in Seoul, South Korea, on January 27.

Their demands, the **Radio** said, are a 30 per cent wage increase,

SUPPRESSIVE MACHINERY REINFORCED

Pak Jung Hi and his clique in South Korea are bent on reinforcing their fascist machinery.

They have decided to increase the puppet police by 5,000 men this year and newly set up over 180 police stations and boxes in Seoul and other major cities.

They are now organizing the "civilian defence corps," an auxiliary to the police, in all the administrative units down to *ri* and even in enterprises, and are scheming to empower the puppet army to search civilians.

In order to control every move of the people, Pak Jung Hi and his clique took the thumb-prints of 17 million people between 18 and 65 by revising the "residents registration law."

recognition of the trade union, a progressive increase of discharge allowances in accordance with the term of service and the payment of family allowances.

They are reported to have decided to organize a "struggle committee" so as to push through their demands at any cost. At the same time they decided to keep up collective activity, leading a group life in the compound of U.S. army barracks during the period of their strike.

Seoul Artistes Refuse To Perform

More than 70 artistes in the vocal music department of the central broadcasting station in Seoul refused to perform on January 26, demanding improvement in their living conditions, according to **Hapdong Tongshin** in South Korea on January 27.

These artistes who were in economic distress had been demanding a 70 per cent increase of the pay for their performance.

The central broadcasting station in Seoul is reported to have suspended the broadcasting of radio dramas as a result of their refusal to perform.

PUSAN ARTISTES DEMONSTRATE

South Korean paper **Kukje Shinbo** reported that stage actors and actresses in Pusan held a demonstration on January 8 demanding better conditions for their theatrical activities.

That day they submitted to the puppet authorities a "petition" demanding that stages be provided for them to continue their art activity, and then held a street demonstration.

500 *SOLDIERS KILLED IN VIETNAM*

According to a dispatch from Hanoi, the **Vietnam News Agency** said, quoting a **South Vietnam Liberation Press Agency** report, that the South Vietnam Liberation Armed Forces and guerrillas in Binh Dinh Province killed nearly 500 South Korean troops in five days' period ending January 12.

The Liberation Armed Forces killed 401 South Korean troops while engaging two South Korean regiments to repulse their attacks on several hamlets of An Nhon, Phu Cat and Tuy Phuoc districts on January 9 and 10.

On January 8, the guerrillas in Tuy Phuoc district thwarted the attack mounted by two companies of the puppet troops from South Korea near Phuoc Hoa hamlet and killed ten of them. On the following day, the guerrillas of the same district frustrated the attack on Phuoc Tang and Cat Tang hamlets by two companies of the South Korean troops and wiped out 21 of them.

On January 10, the guerrillas destroyed two army trucks of the South Korean troops on Highway No. 1 and killed 45.

On January 12, the Liberation Armed Forces launched a surprise attack on a battalion of the South Korean army on the Nui Tat hill in Nhung Pung hamlet, killing more than 200 men.

THIS TRAGEDY SHOULD NEVER HAPPEN!

A U.S.-made bomb was exploded in Sinsan-ri, Kwangtan Sub-County, Paju County, Kyonggi Province, South Korea, on October 16 last year. This took a heavy toll of life and many dwellings were destroyed. Photo shows a grief-stricken boy weeping over the death of his mother.

Remains Arrive At Night

Sixteen more remains of the South Korean soldiers who died a dishonourable death in the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam arrived at the Kimpo airport at 10:50 P.M. on January 26, according to a January 27 dispatch of the news agency **Donghwa** in South Korea.

They are only part of many South Korean soldiers killed in South Vietnam.

Though the Seoul puppets have carried out propaganda as if their troops were achieving any brilliant war results, they have failed to hide the hard facts taking place in Vietnam. Therefore, they have brought some remains home from South Vietnam, and are now trying hard to make the people believe that these remains represented the total loss of their men in South Vietnam.

Yet, afraid to provoke their bereft families and the public to anger, the puppet clique this time carried the remains secretly at night to the "national graveyard" from the airport.

Why Have They Chosen to Fight?

As has been reported in our previous issues, the struggle of the people of South Korea for their right to live and democracy has been mounting since the outset of the New Year.

Noteworthy here is the fact that the Korean workers employed at the U.S. army organs are putting up a struggle fiercer and bigger in scope than ever.

They go on massive strikes and stage demonstrations. Their slogans are: "Increase the wages so that we can make both ends meet," "We are against rule by the whip," "We've had enough of American trickery."

Cases of the struggle of the Korean workers employed at the U.S. army organs in 1965 were 1.6 times more than in 1964 or as many as the figure for some four years since 1961 put together. Last year the struggle involved 1.5 times as many workers as in 1964. Why, then, have they chosen to fight?

Unbearable Poverty

The workers employed at the U.S. army organs are worse off than the wage-earners in other branches. They are paid two-thirds of what the electricians and railway workers get. No small portion of their scanty wages is pocketed in some or other forms by the contractors (most of them are Americans).

You can easily picture how the U.S.-hired workers are faring, when you take into account the fact that the ordinary workers in South Korea are paid somewhere around one-third of the minimum living cost. Their work places are hemmed in by barbed wire entanglements, and the working conditions are worse than in other places.

They are assigned for the most part to work at night, handling the arms and other war supplies which the U.S. imperialists ship into South Korea illegally or the strategic war materials which the U.S. occupation troops transfer from one place to another. The work has to be done quickly and this is why an incomparably intense work is demanded of them.

Recreation and social insurance are out of their reach.

Human Rights Infringed Upon

It is the most elementary right of the workers recognized anywhere in the world to organize trade unions so as to defend their rights and interests. But it is re-

(Continued on page 7)

Rebirth of Tojo-Hitler Alliance

Recently Japanese Foreign Minister Shiina visited West Germany and had talks with West German Prime Minister Erhard and Foreign Minister Schröder.

The communique published after their talks stressed that they discussed the East-West relations, the current situation in Asia, the co-operation among the European countries, and particularly, examined the possibilities of a future economic co-operation with Asia.

Press reports from Japan, too, underscore that the questions of South Korea, Indonesia, South Vietnam and the "Asian Development Bank" were discussed at the Shiina-Schröder talks.

At a press conference held in Bonn after the talks, Japanese Foreign Minister Shiina was very cautious while answering the questions as to what the economic co-operation with Asia would be like and what concrete measures were envisaged to be taken for the "aid" to Indonesia but he could not hide the points on which Japan's interests were focussed.

Later, in Tokyo, he once again emphasized at a press conference that an economic "aid" to Asia had been discussed at his Bonn talks.

It is widely known that West Germany and Japan revived in a short time after World War II with the active support of American imperialism have become the chief agent and accomplice in the execution of the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression throughout the world.

The results of the talks between Shiina and Erhard and his clique show that Bonn and Tokyo have started to discuss concrete measures as to how they should co-operate with each other in order to help the United States towards the execution of its programme of aggression in Asia.

They are seeking to realize their expansionist plans through their penetration under the cloak of "economic co-operation" into such areas as South Korea and South Vietnam where America's rule is being shaken to its foundation, and in return for their support of U.S. imperialism in these areas.

Particularly Shiina's recent visit to West Germany has clearly revealed that the Japanese militarists intend to undertake in partnership with the West German colleagues, the role of contractor for the American plan in Indonesia which is in a complicated situation at present.

It is the calculation of the United States that such countries as Japan, whose aggressive and dangerous features are as yet concealed a bit in some way or other because they are the vanquished nations in the Second World War, could easily penetrate into Indonesia.

It can by no means be regarded as a chance coincidence that the very day Shiina arrived in Bonn the **New York Herald Tribune** emphasized in its editorial that it would prove a "wise" step in filling the "present vacuum" safely for such countries as Japan to approach Indonesia offering an "aid" as a means of saving the situation where Washington and London cannot openly stretch their hands to Indonesia. Disclosing more expressly the American ambition, the same paper wrote that when such an "economic aid" went successful, Indonesia would return to the United Nations and hold a due place in the "world community."

On the agenda of the Shiina-Schröder talks was the question as to how Japan and West Germany should fill these orders placed by Washington.

They stated that Japan and West Germany had agreed to cooperate with each other to give an "effective and pertinent economic aid" conforming to the Asian situation. Particularly, West Germany unequivocally expressed its intention to enlist the Netherlands in their projected "aid" to Indonesia.

At the Bonn talks, the communique reveals, the Japanese militarists and the West German revanchists, in order to realize their expansionist plans under the pretext of strengthening the "traditional friendship" and the political, economic and cultural relations, negotiated the problem of giving support to each other and haggled over the reward for such support. Shiina expressed Japan's wholehearted support to the aggressive position of the West German revenge-seekers on Germany's reunification, and Erhard and his clique, on their part, promised to render Japan their co-operation and support to the Japanese militarists' expansionist plan in Asia.

They even discussed the question of recommending a Japanese as the president of the projected "Asian Development Bank."

Earlier, Bonn expressed its approval of the ratification of the "South Korea-Japan Treaty" in security for opening a bargaining for a tie-up between them.

In the communique, they declared that they would regularly hold "consultations to exchange views on the realistic problems of world politics."

This, in essence, means that the revived Japanese militarists and the West German revanchists have taken concrete steps for resuming the Tojo-Hitler axis and the "Japan-Germany Anti-Communist alliance."

The world's people remember clearly what the collusion between Tojo and Hitler brought to mankind in the past.

What is more, they are well aware that the collusion between the Japanese and German ruling circles, revived with U.S. backing into hotbeds of aggression and war in the East and West, is fraught with grave danger.

Never will the people who keep the bitter lessons of history in their memory tolerate the rampage of the remnant clique of Tojo and Hitler.

Kim Sung Hyong

Refashioning of State Machinery in Japan

Towards the close of 1965, a document called "arrangement with the police on the mobilization of the Japanese Self-Defence Forces for maintenance of public peace" was disclosed at the Japanese Diet. The document signed by the Director of the Defence Agency, the Chairman of the National Public Safety Commission and the Director of the Police Agency provides for detailed plans and ways of mobilization, side by side with the police, of the "Self-Defence Forces" for the "maintenance of public peace" which is aimed in essence at the suppression of people. Not only the "Ground Self-Defence Force" but also the "Air Self-Defence Force" is to take part in the "training for maintenance of public peace." Thus the system for the suppression of people by the "Self-Defence Forces" has been reinforced.

All this has been done in accordance with the plan meticulously drawn up by the ruling circles of Japan who, setting about the overseas aggression in real earnest, are busy re-establishing a fascist system in all spheres of domestic life.

The Japanese militarists with Sato placed at their head are making great efforts to change, first of all, the administrative system into a reactionary one and to reinforce the machinery for the suppression of people. Their primary immediate goal is the revision of the Constitution with the aims of adopting the conscription system, legalizing the nuclear arming of their army and its expedition abroad and introducing a war-time emergency mobilization system.

According to the report prepared by the "board for the inquiry into the Constitution" under the direct control of the Cabinet, the draft of bills has been presented for granting the Cabinet the right to veto the legislative bills approved by the Parliament or at least the right to demand their re-examination, according the Cabinet proxy legislative powers and preventing the "abuse" by the House of Representatives of the right to take a vote of non-confidence against the Cabinet.

The militarists seek to weaken the position of the Diet in a great measure, extend the powers of the Prime Minister to all spheres of the economy, military, police, finance, etc., and provide conditions for the enforcement of "powerful politics" and the introduction of the "war-time system," just as in the years of Tojo government.

In the reorganization of the state ruling machinery, the biggest stress is laid on the promotion of the "Defence Agency" to "Defence Ministry." The aim is to clear the "Self-Defence Forces," formed in violation of the international agreements and the Japanese Constitution prohibiting the formation of armed forces in Japan after World War II, of the disgraceful name of an "illegitimate child," which they allege is "misapplied," and to use the promoted military authorities as a lever in imparting more of the colouring of militarism to the domestic and foreign policies of the government. In this connection, all-out co-operation with the Pentagon based on the "system under the Japan-U.S. Security Pact" is regarded by the Japanese militarists as the prerequisite. They are scheming, with the "Japan-U.S. Defence Board" as the centre, to enact a counter-intelligence law and to reinforce the military intelligence agency and the security police.

The ruling circles of Japan are planning to mobilize troops for the suppression of people. One of the steps they are to take is the preparations in secrecy of the "temporary basic law" and "regulations governing actions for public peace (draft)," providing for increase in the functions of the "Self-Defence Forces" empowering them to take military action when a state-of-national-emergency is declared.

In parallel with the "Self-Defence Forces," the police, the National Public Safety Commission and other agencies for suppression and counter-intelligence, which are organs of violence under the militarist system, have been rapidly expanded in recent years. The number of the police has reached 144,000. This means Japan now has more police force than in the prewar period.

The Sato government, on the plea of being "faithful to the measures for public peace," has set itself the task of "planned reinforcement of the police force." The immediate target is to increase the patrolmen by 18,000 within the next three years. Besides such lawfully functioning organizations for suppression as the "Self-Defence Forces" and the police, Japan has "fire brigades" and many Right-wing terrorist agencies.

Moreover, numerous militarist organizations such as "Defence Board of the Liberal-Democratic Party," "Defence Production Board of the Federation of the Economic Bodies," "Union of Fellow Provincials of Japan," "Wounded Soldiers Association," "Society of the Soldiers on Pension," "Institute for the Study of Continental Problems" and "National Defence Society," where the soldiers of the former Imperial Army make up the backbone, have been stepping up their activities with the open support of the Sato clique.

P.M.S.

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garded as "illegal" for the workers employed at the U.S. army units in South Korea to have such organizations.

The "regulations governing labour" in the so-called South Korea-U.S. Administrative Agreement which the U.S. occupation army authorities and the puppet regime of South Korea are going to sign, deny the Korean workers employed at the U.S. army units the rights to collective bargaining and united activity.

The U.S. occupation army authorities also retain until today, 13 years after the conclusion of the armistice in Korea, the "labour service corps," a semi-compulsory organization comprising the South Korean workers who were drafted to work at the U.S. army units during the Korean war according to the "law on the mobilization of labour," and the workers of this "corps" are denied the right to organize trade unions.

When these workers organized 28 branch unions last year, the U.S. army authorities suppressed them in a fascist way, outlawing the branch unions forthwith and dismissing scores of workers including the leaders of those unions.

In this way U.S. authorities ban the labour disputes of all sorts, depriving the workers of the most elementary right to present the vital demands of their life. They hold the Korean workers in an intolerable national contempt, abuse them and perpetrate atrocities against them. They forbid the Korean workers employed in their organs to speak in Korean, force them to speak in English, lynch them for no reason at all and, still worse, kill them just "for the fun of doing so."

In Waegwan of North Kyongsang Province, the Yankees ordered a Korean worker to go under a crane and then let fall a tank engine from the crane on him, thereby killing him. In Pusan, the Americans hung a Korean worker from the tip of the arm of a crane on the false charge of theft and then sent him down into the sea, thus taking his life. These are only a couple of the cases of the U.S. atrocities that have evoked a strong public condemnation in South Korea.

Facts show that unbearable poverty, absence of all rights and national contempt are what have led the workers employed at the U.S. army organs in South Korea to the path of struggle.

Their struggle is a stern verdict passed on the crimes committed by the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea.

Li Byong Gap

Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" under training under the guidance of American military advisors

Joint Japan-U.S. War Manoeuvres

According to reports from Tokyo, the Japanese journal Gunji Kenkyu (Military Study) disclosed in its article that the American imperialists are stepping up military exercises in northern Kyushu and Yamaguchi in their preparations for a wider war of aggression in Vietnam.

The Iwakuni-based F-4B Phantom fighter-bombers of the U.S. air force, it says, make a daily average of 270 flights to practise air-to-ground attacks. The Japanese "Air Self-Defence Force" in Iwakuni, put on the alert on January 1, stands ready for "emergency call-up."

A tense atmosphere pervades northern Kyushu. Kyushu has again turned into an outpost of the United States as it did during the Korean war.

Citing the large-scale ground, air and naval manoeuvres the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" staged jointly with the U.S. forces and the puppet troops of South Korea many times last year, the journal said.

Particularly in November last year the U.S. forces and the puppet troops of South Korea held a war game in the simulated conditions of a "second Korean war." The "Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defence Forces" of Japan staged similar joint exercises.

The joint war games of the U.S. army and the "Self-Defence Forces" of Japan, the journal said, are evidence of the collaboration between the American and Japanese reactionaries in the military sphere for the provocation of an aggressive war. The journal then noted that the Japanese authorities are seeking to send the "Self-Defence Forces" overseas for joint operations with the U.S. army and to place Japan on a war footing.

(KCNA)

THEATRES IN PYONGYANG

THE YOUTH THEATRE

Artistes on the Paddies

IT was one autumn day last year. Golden ears of ripe rice were rippling on the paddies on the Sungho plain in the suburbs of Pyongyang. It was the season of rice harvest. A man who happened to pass by the paddies where the harvest was in full swing stopped short at the tender singing of a girl coming from the paddies.

"What a charming voice! Looks like a professional singer!" he spoke to himself.

There was no knowing for him that Merited Artiste Kim Gyong Sun of the Youth Theatre was there among the people mowing the rice plants.

It has become an established practice for the actors, dancers and singers of the Youth Theatre to visit a co-op farm in the city's suburbs in the busy farming season to give a helping hand to the co-op farmers. They mingle with the farmers and in the course of their contacts with the grass-roots they learn much about realities.

Actor Li Gun Ho

The artistes also frequent factories and other enterprises and schools for the same purpose. The Youth Theatre is for the youth and students. It is, therefore, essential for the staff of this theatre to have regular contacts with the [illegible] to make a deep study of the practical life and gain first-hand experience in this course so as to produce plays, dances and music works that can deeply impress the young people.

Their tireless efforts in the art activities of this theatre for embodying its distinguishing features have produced tangible results.

Actress Im Sok Ran

They Are All Young

The Youth Theatre opened in 1955. It has a song and dance troupe besides a dramatic company. This is som-thing peculiar to it, compared with other theatres.

The song and dance troupe's repertoire comprises the numbers and pieces that can be performed, without the decor required on the regular stage, at work places for young people and in assembly halls of schools. The spectators are sure to see the representation of the themes about their daily life on the stage.

Another feature is that the creative staff of the Youth Theatre consist entirely of young people.

Among them are Jo Chun Hwa, Im Sok Ran, Li Gun Ho of the dramatic company and Merited Artiste Ra Myong Sun of the song and dance troupe.

This theatre has over the past 10 years produced a number of good plays. Among them are *"Young Vanguards"* dealing with the Korean people's revolutionary traditions, juvenile drama *"Young Fighters Following the Leader,"* drama *"Hero Li Su Bok"* treating of the heroic spirit a young Korean soldier displayed in the Patriotic War of Liberation against the U.S. aggressors, juvenile drama *"Happiness"* reflecting the activities of the Korean youth and students today, and a quixotic juvenile play *"Tale of a Rabbit."*

In the near future, the theatre will put on the stage drama *"An Immortal Cry"* dealing with the Korean students' anti-Japanese struggle in Kwangju in 1929.

"Young Vanguards"

Drama *"Young Vanguards"* produced in 1964 is especially popular with the young people. It is dramatized from a novel by Rim Chun Chu, participant in the anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare in the 1930's.

With the social environments and a number of events that took place from the 1930's up to the time of the country's liberation in 1945 as the background, this drama shows how the heroic young Communists of Korea fought at the risk of their lives for the country's liberation and for the realization of their ideal.

Let us have a glimpse of a few scenes in the play.

Young fighter Chun Ik is lost in deep thought, with a ray of the sun streaming into the cell through the prison bars.

He sees in the ray the dawn which will break over his motherland which is under the Japanese colonial rule and feels confident of the final victory of the Korean people's struggle.

In a few minutes, he is to be taken to the execution ground. But, convinced that a multitude of revolutionaries will grow and take over the cause for which he and his comrades-in-arms lay down their lives and that the country will certainly be liberated by the indomitable struggle of the anti-Japanese guerrillas, he talks about the future with his comrades-in-arms in whispers.

The ideal of the young vanguards having such a lofty spirit as their principle in life is boundlessly clear and beautiful.

Young anti-Japanese guerrillas on night duty at a desolate post feel a flush of happiness coming over them as they, under the bright moon, look forward to the day when they will be back in their homeland. The hero Sam Son and Sun Hui fall in a simple yet passionate love with each other in the course of the revolutionary struggle.

These episodes give an idea of what ideal the young vanguards cherish. Their ideal is to cast off the colonial bondage, liberate the country and work, heart and soul for the prosperity of the nation and the happiness of the succeeding generations in their free home country. Possessed of such a lofty ideal, the young vanguards exhibit the features of the Young Communist League members who remain faithful to the dictates of conscience in any adversity.

This drama enables the young people, who have grown up free from any restraint in the liberated land, to trace the source of their happiness today and encourages them to follow the example of the revolutionary seniors. *"Young Vanguards"* was a successful production. It gripped the hearts of the young spectators and created a sensation among the theatre-goers in general.

Pak Hae Chon

Sam Son (left) (played by Jo Chun Hwa) and Sun Hui (played by Im Sok Ran) in the drama "Young Vanguards"

Sports

EXHIBITION SKATING

On January 23 and 26 exhibition skating contests took place at a stadium in Sinuiju.

Merited Athlete Han Pil Hwa and many other top-notch skaters from the February 8 sports team and the physical training centres of Jagang and Ryanggang Provinces took part in the contests which were the last try-out before the world speedskating championships. Han Pil Hwa came first in the women's 500, 1,500 and 3,000 metres. In the 500 metres, she improved her record established at the recent national skating contests in Pyongyang.

Kim Song Sun, Ryu Chun Ja and Ko Gwang Ja also made good showings. Kim Jin Guk was placed first in the men's 500 metres and Pak Song Wun won first place in the men's 10,000 metres.

Meanwhile, figure skaters, too, gave exhibition performances.

WINTER HOLIDAY HOME FOR PUPILS

A holiday home for the Young Pioneers in Sok'am, 30 kilometres northwest of Pyongyang, opens even in winter. Hundreds of pupils from Pyongyang City, South Pyongan Province and other parts of the country are now spending their winter vacation at this holiday home.

During their winter holidays, our school boys and girls also visit the scenes of revolutionary struggles waged in the 1930's, scenic spots, places of historical interest, factories and cultural establishments.

As for the expenses incurred in the accommodation of the pupils at the holiday home, they are entirely covered by the state.

The holiday home arranges for the young vacationers hunting, hiking, marches on the snow-covered roads, playing at soldiers, indoor games, skating contests, song and dance performances, exchange of experience in the Young Pioneers' activities and film shows.

Walking is one of the exercises they have every day, defying cold weather

KOREAN Stamps

Korean folk dance has a long history. It depicts various aspects of the people's life. The D.P.R.K. Ministry of Communications issued stamps on Korean folk dance on a number of occasions.

Stamp 1: "Peasant Dance," 10 *jon* (issued on Feb. 25, 1960, multi-colours, measures 24×40 mm. Perf. 11, Offset.)

Stamp 2: "Dance with a Sword," 5 *jon* (issued on Feb. 25, 1960, multi-colours, measures 24×40 mm. Perf. 11, Offset.)

Stamp 3: "Dance of Ecstasy," 5 *jon* (issued in June 1964, multi-colours, measures 36×23 mm. Perf. 11, Offset.)

Stamp 4: "Strolling Player's Dance," 10 *jon* (issued in Apr. 1963, multi-colours, measures 24×35 mm. Perf. 11, Offset.)

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